

GARRETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT – May 2012
By the Board of County Commissioners “Board”

Community Action Committee

1. The Board conducted a *Public Hearing* to receive public commentary on community development and housing needs relative to an application for funding to be submitted to the State of MD Department of Housing and Community Development under the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). This project is a continuation of program funding for homeownership and housing rehabilitation programs. Specifics of this application are on file with GC Community Action Committee. The Board closed the *Public Hearing* and executed a Resolution approving this application.
2. Adoption of Citizen Participation Plan for CDBG. The Board approved the Plan.
3. Adoption of Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan. The Board approved the Plan.
4. The Board reviewed the MD Department of Housing and Community Development CDBG program job creation agreement with ASCI.

Department of Economic Development

1. Staff and Joann Hovis with CTC (Communications, Engineering, and Analysis), the County's primary consultant provided an update on the County Broadband Feasibility Study – Final Publication. This presentation included the Study methodology, technical analysis/recommendations, business, financial considerations, and proposed plan to reach 90% broadband availability that was established in the County Strategic Plan.
2. Informational review of a proposal to complete a Fractured Rock Study by the State of MD DNR, State of MDE, and the US Geological Service. The Board asked that a letter be sent to the Office of the Governor to request that matching funds for this study and this matter be added to a future public meeting agenda.
3. Chairman Raley attended the Sustainable Transformation of the Appalachian Region (STAR) meeting. This is a series of sessions with the primary objective of this project is to assure that the economic development interests of Western Maryland are incorporated in Plan Maryland, the state's first state development plan.
4. The Board met with Michael Koch, principal with KSC Now who has been retained to facilitate the GC Branding Study.

Department of Facilities and Maintenance

1. Overview of maintenance staff and their areas of responsibility and duties.
2. Overview of custodial staff and their areas of responsibility and duties.
3. Long-term preventive maintenance, facility, construction, and building plans.
4. Discussion on assigning and transferring general custodial work at the Visitor's Center to the GC Chamber of Commerce.

Garrett College

1. Statement that the College is engaged in many areas of the Co. and that the College appreciates the support from the Board and Co. Government.
2. Presentation of the College Academic Plan – Final Draft.
3. Notification that the College will not be instituting a tuition increase for the 2012 – 2013 Calendar.
4. The College has operationized workforce development initiatives and programs in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) related areas of study.
5. Update on the College's involvement and plans of integration with Adventure Sports Center International.
6. Update on the Community Athletic and Recreation Complex including construction completion of the gymnasium section.

Department of Financial Services

1. The Board discussed the proposed increase in hotel rental tax. The Board had requested and secured authority from the MD General Assembly to increase the rate to a percentage not to exceed 6%. The Board enacted and adopted the execution of Resolution that would impose a hotel rental tax rate of 6%.
2. County Coal Haul Tax Statue. The point of discussion is the required justification for municipalities being eligible for the percentage of the tax collected. After an in depth deliberation, the Board decided to distribute coal haul tax revenues to Grantsville, Kitzmiller, and Friendsville for Fiscal Year 2012. Commissioner Crawford voted in opposition to the motion because Grantsville and Friendsville did not qualify to receive the allocations based upon the documentation provided by the municipalities and the criteria outlined in the state statue. The Board agreed by consensus to adjust allocations in future fiscal years.

3. Review of St. Paul's United Methodist Church parking lot lease which is up for renewal on July 1, 2012.

Department of Information Technology

1. County Tax Office financial issues.
2. Adventure Sports Center International transfer of technology areas.
3. County website improvements.
4. Frederick A. Thayer, III Court House security upgrades and completion of projects.
5. Software and hardware improvements.
6. One Maryland Fiber Project.
7. VOIP (voice over internet provider) office phone system.

Department of Planning & Land Development

1. The Board discussed Senate Bill 236 – Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Preservation Act of 2012 that was approved and enacted by the Maryland General Assembly. This session was conducted to provide public awareness of requirements and timelines for this new law.
2. The Board reviewed the Draft Land Use Management Ordinance. The purpose of this session was to allow public review that would allow the Board an opportunity to take under advisement and consideration any commentary for inclusion in the final draft.
3. GC 2012 Land Preservation and Recreation Plan Resolution for review and adoption by Board. This is an update that is required every 6 years as written in the Annotated Code – Natural Resources Article.
4. Presentation for review a number of properties the State of MD DNR will purchase with Program Open Space bond funds. These included the following: Savage River Road - Owings Property and N/O Folly Run Potomac Slaughter Property.
5. The Board conducted a *Public Hearing* to review a proposal submitted by Bill Meagher to amend the DC Watershed Zoning Ordinance. The Board closed the *Public Hearing* and determined to keep the public commentary record open until 8:00 AM on June 5, 2012.

Purchasing Department

1. The Board approved an award to Glotfelty Enterprises for a number of specific tire sizes. Detailed summary is on file with the Purchasing Department.
2. The Board approved an award to Carl Belt, Inc. for a total bid price \$1,246,205.75. The project is funded by Federal Bridge Funding (80%) in the amount of \$996,964.60, West Virginia Department of Transportation in the amount of \$124,620.57, and County in the amount of \$124,620.58.
3. The Board discussed the potential for pursuing the procurement of an energy audit. The Board directed staff to proceed with the implementation of the audit, include other County Government agencies, and prepare for public adoption of an official County policy in July.
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Roads Department

The Board conducted a *Public Hearing* to receive public commentary on a request from Habitat for Humanity for GC to include Frank Custer Dr. and Rockville Court inclusion into the GC Roads Depart. The Board approved the road for inclusion and executed an Order that formally opened this road as a public road of GC.

Department of Solid Waste & Recycling

1. Discussion to increase the landfill tipping fee (from \$35 per ton to \$45 per ton) and collection site user sticker fee (from \$25 to \$50). The Board is proposing to reduce the Landfill Ad Valorem tax from \$0.0400 to \$0.0200 which will result in additional general fund revenue without an increase the total real property tax rate of \$0.9900. An approval of the tipping fee and collection site sticker fee is required to direct funds to the debt service obligations of the County Landfill. The Board agreed to establish a landfill tipping fee to \$45 per ton for household (effective July 1, 2012) and construction and landfill sticker of \$50 (effective January 1, 2013).
2. Review and adoption of Resolution that would approve and amend the 10 Year Solid Waste Management Plan

University of Maryland Extension

1. Update on nutrient management program and water quality awareness and compliance.
2. Activities related to 4-H Youth Development.
3. Agricultural and Natural Resources.
4. Hunter safety classes and camp.

5. Literacy and nutrition program update.

Miscellaneous

1. The Board executed a Proclamation pronouncing May 2012 as “Military Families Support Month”.
2. The Board executed a Proclamation pronouncing May 5 to 12, 2012 as “National Women Build Week”.
3. The Board appointed Karl Schwalm and William Vansickle to the GC Health Planning Council.
5. The Board reviewed candidates for consideration on the GC Assessment Board of Appeals. The Board is required to review all candidates and submit 3 names to the Governor for official appointment. The Board determined to submit the names of Michael Bell, Richard Schiff, and Aaron White for consideration.
6. The Board appointed Judy Carbone to the GC Commission for Women.
7. Friends of DCL met with the Board to discuss the State of MD DNR Phase II DCL Sediment Study.
8. Update on the status of the Heritage Plan for GC and the replacement of the Heritage Area Manager that is to be hired by the Chamber of Commerce to assure that the project grant applications will proceed to the appropriate administrative office.
9. Brief on a possible request from the Crellin Improvement Association for waiver of tipping fees for the disposal of renovation and construction debris from the Crellin Community Center.
10. Members of the Board of Trustees and staff with The Ruth Enlow Library of GC met with the Board to discuss issues related to the Kitzmiller Branch of the Library System and the decision by the Elected Board of Education to close Kitzmiller Elementary School.
11. The Board met with community residents from the Town of Kitzmiller to discuss the feasibility of using the Kitzmiller Elementary School as a community center.